

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY

Employment Agency Program

NOTICE

Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) Requirements for Agencies that Place Domestic Workers

Every organization that employs or refers “home health aide(s), companion(s) or other community based services to elderly persons or disabled persons in a home,” or “personal care attendants” of any kind, is required to conduct criminal background checks in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws c. 6, §§ 167 – 178B.

Thus domestic placement agencies licensed by the Division of Occupational Safety pursuant to G. L. c. 140, §§ 46A – 46R that place these workers must obtain criminal offender record information (CORI) on all workers referred or placed in a home or other client domicile or who have access to client files or records. Records of CORI information obtained by employment agencies are confidential and must be filed securely in a separate file cabinet.

The CORI system is administered by the Criminal Offender Record Information Unit, which is a division of the Criminal History Systems Board. Among other things, the CORI Unit certifies employers to conduct these checks on individuals who may be employed or placed in domestic service. Applications and information are available at: www.mass.gov/chsb.

Criminal History Systems Board
CORI Unit
200 Arlington Street, Suite 2200
Chelsea, MA 02150
Tel: (617) 660-4640

During the semi-annual inspections conducted by the Division of Occupational Safety pursuant to G. L. c. 140, § 46Q, domestic placement agencies will be asked to demonstrate that they are in compliance with this law.

This notice is available on the Division of Occupational Safety’s web site at www.mass.gov/dos/ea

Questions and complaints concerning employment agencies in Massachusetts may be directed to the Division of Occupational Safety, 399 Washington Street, 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02108. Telephone: (617) 727-3696. Web site: www.mass.gov/dos.